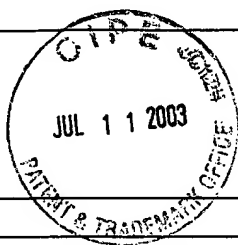


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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	ABGX001CON3 5842
First Named Inventor	A. Jakobovits
Application Number	09/718,717
Filing Date	November 22, 2000
Group Art Unit	1636
Examiner Name	T.A. McKelvey
Title	Generation of large genomic DNA deletions

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed along with a Request for Continued Examination, and is responsive to the Office Action dated June 26, 2002. A Notice of Appeal was filed on December 12, 2002, making the two-month date to file an Appeal Brief or take other action February 12, 2003. ***A Petition for a five-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, making this amendment due on or before July 12, 2003.*** Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.